

(c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to the State Governments to take measures to implement the package plan for boosting agro-product; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) made appropriate revision in October, 1992 in the interest rates of Pre-Shipment as well as Post-Shipment Credits. These rates have been kept under review by the RBI so that adequate credit is available to exporters at internationally competitive rates.

To make exports competitive, credit facilities under the following schemes of the RBI are extended :-

- (i) Pre-Shipment Export Credit in Foreign Currency
- (ii) Pre-Shipment Export Credit in Rupees
- (iii) Post-Shipment Export Credit in Rupee or in foreign currency
- (iv) Export Bill Rediscounting

The standing instruction from RBI requires the banks to achieve a minimum level of 12% of the Net Bank Credit to the Export Sector.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) accords priority for extending refinance support to 100% Export Oriented Projects under horticulture (including vegetables, spices and floriculture), animal husbandry and sericulture. Further, automatic refinance facility upto a limit of Rs. 10 lakhs and refinance assistance on schematic basis upto SSI limits is provided.

(c) and (d) Credit facilities available for exporters are given wide publicity and the State Governments/Financial Institutions are informed about the same by the concerned agencies.

[Translation]

#### Use of Hindi

4401. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :-

(a) whether his Ministry has modern gadgets installed such as computer, telex, teleprinting etc. which are in Roman Script and these are being converted into bilingual;

(b) if, so the manner in which these bilingual gadgets likely to be put into use by the Ministry;

(c) the manner in which the use of Hindi is likely to be promoted.

(d) whether the Ministry has given exemption for use of Hindi to their offices located in Region 'A' where work has to be done cent per cent in Hindi; and

(e) if so, the reasons for giving such an exemption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Ministry of Coal is using the bilingual computers installed by National Informatics Centre. This Ministry is not using any Telex/Teleprinters at present.

(b) and (c) Stenographers and typists duly trained in Hindi have been deployed to operate the bilingual computers and to take out print-outs in Hindi and English, as per requirement. The availability of these bilingual gadgets promotes the quick production of materials in Hindi and thereby, its use, timely, properly, and as per set targets

(d) No Sir. Every year the Ministry circulates the Department of Office Language's 'Annual Programme' to all the offices, located in region 'A' and also requests them to achieve the targets laid down by the O.L. Department

(e) In view of reply on (d), question does not arise.

[English]

#### Control on the use of World Bank Loan

4402. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :  
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister for the STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the World Bank has started a giant audit exercise known as across the board review to cross-check on how India is using loan money;

(b) if so, the details of the exercise currently underway at Central and State level and present status of the progress made;

(c) whether such exercise is routine or initiated during the current year to exercise effective control on appropriate use of World Bank Loan;

(d) the details of the emerging trend in utilisation of World Bank Loan in India for development projects sector-wise and state-wise; and

(e) the details of follow up action taken on the common shortcomings noticed in the past in utilisation of World Bank Loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) As compared to the year 1994-95 the utilisation in World Bank aided projects in the Agriculture, Water Supply & Sanitation, Power Transport & Telecommunication and Urban Development sectors has shown improvement in the year 1995-96. As far as States are concerned Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have shown better performance during the same period.

(e) The Government has already taken a number of steps to further improve project implementation. These include ensuring adequate provisioning for external aided projects, release of Additional Central Assistance as 100% additionality, advance release of ACA to the States, standardisation of bidding documents and streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediation on flow of external aid to Central PSUs, Portfolio Rationalisation and setting up of project Monitoring Unit in the Department of Economic Affairs.

#### Irregularities in P.F.

4403. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of irregularities are observed in the Centrally maintained Provident Fund Accounts of employees in Indian Overseas Bank at its Central Office, Madras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of total amount lying as on December 31, 1996 uncredited/un-reconciled in Sundry Creditors relating to Provident Fund of large number of employees, and

(d) the reasons thereof and the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Indian Overseas Bank has reported that there are no such irregularities and no amount of Provident Fund of employees is lying in Sundry Creditors Accounts. However, Provident fund remittances of staff mostly relating to the months of September, 1996 to December, 1996 amounting to approximately Rs. 10.94 crores was in the process of re-conciliation and subsequent credit as on 31.12.96. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 6.03 crores has already been re-conciled and credited. The bank has further reported that the delay in re-conciliation is because of the routine time

lag needed for receipt of credits from 1450 branches all over the country and checking 26,000 credits (approximately) before crediting the correct amounts. The bank has added that it is their endeavour to reduce such delays.

[Translation]

#### Export of Textiles

4404. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of cotton exported out of the total production of cotton in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) whether more foreign exchange can be earned by exporting yarn cloth and readymade garments than that of cotton only;

(c) if so, the estimate in this regard and whether the Government have contemplated any policy to discourage the export of cotton and encourage the export of products made from it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) :  
(a) The percentage of cotton exported out of the total production of cotton during the last three years is given below :

Year	%
1993-94	3.20
1994-95	0.78
1995-96	7.36

(b) to (d) While it is generally advantageous to export value added items such as yarn, cloth, made-ups and garments, export of cotton is allowed only when there is likely availability of surplus cotton after taking into consideration all relevant factors, including estimates of production, availability, requirements for domestic consumption, price trend of cotton, etc. The Government tries to balance the interests of the cotton growers as well as the consuming sectors. The ceiling for exports of cotton yarn below 41s counts was raised from 80 million Kg. to 120 million Kg. in 1996.

[English]

#### Smuggling of Gold

4405. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :